

Maritime Administration, DOT

§ 298.27

annual amount necessary to redeem the outstanding Obligations at maturity; or

(3) With regard to Eligible Export Vessels, in accordance with such other terms as we determine to be more favorable and to be compatible with export credit terms offered by foreign governments for the sale of vessels built in foreign shipyards.

[65 FR 45152, July 20, 2000, as amended at 67 FR 61282, Sept. 30, 2002]

§ 298.23 Refinancing.

(a) We may approve guarantees of Obligations to be secured by one or more Vessels or a Shipyard Project issued to refinance existing Title XI debt for either Vessels or for Shipyard Project and existing non-Title XI debt, so long as the existing debt has been previously issued for one of the purposes set forth in sections 1104(a)(1) through (4) of the Act. Section 1104 (a) (1) of the Act requires that, if the existing indebtedness was incurred more than one year after the delivery or redelivery of the related Vessel or Shipyard Project, the proceeds of such Obligations will be applied to the construction, reconstruction or reconditioning of other Vessels or Shipyard Project or as provided in § 298.24.

(b) We shall require any security lien on the Vessel(s) or Shipyard Project to be discharged immediately before we place a Mortgage or other security interest on any of the above assets. You must satisfy all necessary eligibility requirements as set forth in subpart B of this part, including economic soundness.

§ 298.24 Financing a Vessel more than a year after delivery.

(a) We may approve Guarantees for a Vessel which has been delivered (or redelivered in the case of reconstruction or reconditioning of a Vessel) more than one year prior to the issuance of the Guarantees only if:

(1) The issuance of the Guarantees would otherwise satisfy the requirements of the Act and the regulations in this part, and

(2) The proceeds of the Obligation financing such existing Vessel are used to finance:

(i) The construction, reconstruction, or reconditioning of a different Vessel within one year of that Vessel's delivery or redelivery, as the case may be, or

(ii) Facilities or equipment pertaining to marine operations. Such facilities or equipment must be of a specialized nature, used principally for servicing vessels and in handling waterborne cargo in the close proximity of the berthing area, excluding over-the-road equipment (other than chassis and containers), permanent or semipermanent structures and real estate, as well as new or less than one year old.

(b) At the Closing of Guarantees covered by this section, you must deposit the proceeds of the Obligation into an Escrow Fund established to pay for the cost unless you demonstrate to our satisfaction that all such costs have been paid.

§ 298.25 Excess interest or other consideration.

We shall not execute Guarantees if any agreement in the Documentation directly or indirectly provides for:

(a) The payment to an Obligor of interest, or other compensation for services which have not been performed, in a manner that such compensation or payment is being provided as interest in excess of the rate approved by us; or

(b) Grants of security to an Obligor in addition to the Guarantees.

§ 298.26 Lease payments.

You must obtain our approval of the amount and conditions of lease or charter hire payments if the payment of principal and interest on Obligations would be dependent, in any way, upon the lease or charter hire payments for a Vessel or Shipyard Project.

§ 298.27 Advances.

(a) *In general.* (1) In accordance with section 207 and Title XI of the Act, we have the discretion to make or commit to make an advance or payment of funds to, or on behalf of the owner, or operator or directly to any other person or entity for items, including, but not limited to:

- (i) Principal,
- (ii) Interest,